

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 and 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (New) A core structure of a heat exchanger, the core structure comprising:
a plurality of tubes through which a heat exchange medium is to flow;
a plurality of corrugated fins adhering to said tubes to advance radiation of heat
from said tubes; and
a plurality of seat plates arranged opposite to each other with a predetermined
space interposed therebetween and having said tubes and said corrugated fins arranged
alternately therebetween, said seat plates being provided with connection portions having
main body portions and wall portions slanted from said main body portions toward said
tubes and formed with tube holes through which said tubes are inserted to be fixed,
wherein

the connection portions also have first and second vulnerable portions which are
thinner than said main body portions and said wall portions, in series on said wall
portions, and absorb thermal stress of said seat plates against said tubes by bending, and
said first and second vulnerable portions are formed at a position between said
wall portions and the tube holes and a position between said main body portions and said
wall portions, respectively.

Claim 4 (New) A core structure of a heat exchanger according to claim 3, wherein
the tube holes are positioned at a position further from said main body portions
than said wall portions and said first and second vulnerable portions.